

EXCHANGE:
Closing Quotations—
T.T. London, 36 1/4.
On Demand 34 1/4.

The Hongkong Telegraph

WEATHER FORECAST
DULL.
Barometer 29.01.

April 4, 1918. Temperature 6 a.m. 54 4 p.m. 65
Humidity 95

(ESTABLISHED 1861)
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April 4, 1917. Temperature 6 a.m. 68 4 p.m. 72
Humidity 79

7908 日金廿二

THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 1918.

四拜禮 四月四日英香港

SINGLE COPY IS ONE SHILLING
ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

REUTERS' TELEGRAMS.

A LULL IN THE BATTLE.

HEROIC DEEDS BY BRITISH TROOPS.

London, April 2.
Reuter's correspondent at the British Headquarters, wiring on the evening of April 2, says:—This has been the quietest day since the offensive began, excepting the tireless activity of our airmen, who continue to harass the enemy along a front of miles and in the rear. It should be remembered that in consequence of the salient the enemy has extended his front about thirty miles and the protection against counter-attacks means drawing largely upon his reserves. Australians are participating in the battle some in considerable numbers. The quality of the reinforcements which are arriving from Britain is highly praised. The comparative rest of the last few days has rested and recuperated our troops, who are ready for further operations. A most trying feature of rearguard operations is the want of sleep. Incidentally our airmen are curbing the slumber of the Hun.

Our Heroic Troops.

Details of the heroism of English, Scottish and Irish troops to face the first German onslaught elicited by correspondents are most thrilling. Ulstermen, whose right flank was pierced, fought continual rearguard actions for five days for thirty miles, eluding envelopment. To the left of the Ulstermen were British units, including the Manchester, Scots Fusiliers, Bedford and Yorkshires, who held on though the flanks were pressed back. The outstanding episode was the last stand of the 16th Manchester in the Manchester Redoubt, west of St. Quentin, so-called because the Manchester Redoubt captured a year ago. When attacked by the German hordes, the Manchester settled down to steady resistance, communicating regularly with Brigade Headquarters by a buried cable. Their Colonel reported that the Manchester would hold the redoubt to the last and subsequently reported that nearly all the men were hit, including himself. Messages came regularly for four hours, but not a word of surrender. Then silence indicated that the redoubt had fallen.

One platoon of Scots Fusiliers, not receiving an order to retire as the runner was killed, remained behind some hours and then marched back right through the German lines, rejoining the battalion intact. At one point on the march they ambushed and stampeded a column of transport, shooting the drivers and capturing a number of wagons. As regards the Ulstermen, two hundred Germans once got behind the Divisional Headquarters but were flung out after sharp fighting by staff officers and men. A feature of the retreat was the gallantry of a miscellaneous force of pioneers, clerks, servants and signallers, who were given rifles and held a part of the railway until it was relieved. While these troops are resting Australians and New Zealanders have come into the line fresh and keen and have already done much execution among the enemy. The most successful enterprise was the New Zealanders' raid on Hebuterne, when in seven minutes they ejected the enemy from nearly a thousand yards of road, taking two hundred prisoners and one hundred and ten machine-guns. Later detail exemplifies the extraordinary use the Germans are making of machine-guns.

No Bulgarian Troops.

London, April 3.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Washington, the Associated Press says that the American Consul at Sofia, writing on March 21, declares that no Bulgarian troops have been moved to the Western Front for the German offensive.

British Captures.

London, April 3.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We repulsed, after sharp fighting, a determined attack in the neighbourhood of Fampoux, killing a number and taking a few prisoners. We took 100 prisoners in capturing Ayette and also took a few prisoners in yesterday's enterprise at Serre and in a successful raid to the north-east of Poelcapelle. The Lincolnshires raided to the north-east of Loos, taking thirty-one prisoners.

General Smuts' Tribute.

London, April 3.
General Smuts, in a speech at a luncheon of the Clothmakers' Company, on the occasion of his being made a Liveryman, referring to the German offensive, pointed out that during the past year the British Army had borne the brunt of the heaviest fighting of the war and suffered the heaviest casualties. It had stood "in the breach in order that others might recuperate. The enemy, thinking our morale had suffered and that the time had come for a knock-out, again singled out the British for the greatest blow of the war and was confident he would overwhelm us. In a little over a week, the enemy hurled against the Third and Fifth Armies over fifteen hundred thousand men in an attack whose fury was probably unprecedented in the history of the war.

French Activity.

London, April 3.
A French communiqué states:—There is growing reciprocal artillery firing on the southern front. The enemy, by an attack south of Moreuil, between Molleville, Melly and Rameval, gained a footing at one point of the advanced line, but was elsewhere repulsed. We also repulsed an attempt to the north of Nollat. By minor operations north of Plamont we widened our positions, taking sixty prisoners.

Our six squadrons on March 31 dropped twelve thousand kilograms of explosives on the railway and cantonnements at Ham, Chagnies, Noyon etc. A great fire broke out in the railway station at Chagnies.

Enemy cantonnements in the region of Roze were plentifully bombed from machine-guns at low altitudes. Our chase-planes fought numerous engagements, bringing down eight enemy machines, while our anti-aircraft guns destroyed two others.

GERMAN LONG-RANGE GUN BURSTS.

London, April 3.
Reuter's correspondent at Paris says that German prisoners state that one long-range gun which was bombarding Paris burst, and five of the crew were killed.

JAPAN-AMERICAN SHIPPING AGREEMENT.

London, April 3.
Reuter's correspondent at New York says that approximately twenty ships, each of 3,000 tons, will be obtained from Japan under the recent agreement.

REUTERS' TELEGRAMS.

AFFAIRS IN RUSSIA.

Austro-German Prisoners at Irkutsk.

London, April 3.
Reuter's correspondent at Tokyo states that a train-load of fifteen hundred Austro-German prisoners and twelve machine guns arrived at Irkutsk. Their destination is believed to be Vladivostok. All wear Russian uniforms and possess new arms. There are now 16,000 prisoners of war at Irkutsk, where the military organisation is purely German.

Murman Railway Menaced.

London, April 3.
A telegram from Petrograd says that as the Finnish White Guard advance from Tommerfors towards the White Sea is menacing the Railway, the Anglo-French authorities have effected an understanding with the Murman Soviet for the protection of the line. Intervention at Vladivostok?

London, April 3.
A telegram from Tokyo says there are rumours that Bolshevik excesses in Vladivostok may force Allied intervention.

THE U. S. SENATE.

An Impressive Scene.

London, April 3.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Washington, the Archbishop of York, at an impressive scene in the Senate, delivered a prayer for the victory of the Allied arms and a lasting and righteous peace for the men defending the cause of truth and freedom in the great battle overseas. The invocation closed with the Lord's Prayer, Senators and spectators joining.

War on Turkey and Bulgaria.

London, April 3.
Reuter's correspondent at Washington states that a resolution has been introduced into the Senate proposing a declaration of war against Turkey and Bulgaria. The resolution has been referred to the Foreign Relations Committee.

AUSTRIA AND PEACE.

London, April 3.
Count Casmir said he did not intend begging for peace but would enforce it by moral and material strength. He defended the Russian peace terms and denied that Germany wanted annihilation, but admitted that certain preconditions had to be taken for military security. He affirmed that Austria had recently been almost on the point of entering negotiations with the Western Powers, but the latter suddenly veered round, deciding to await the internal collapse of Austria. Count Casmir extolled the Austro-German Alliance, which had splendidly stood the test of war.

[The first part of the above message is due to hand.—Ed. H.K.T.]

MILITARY CHANGES.

London, April 3.
The Daily Chronicle says that General Sir Henry Rawlinson will command the Fifth Army, which has been absorbed. Lieut.-General Sir Hubert Gough will be temporarily employed.

PRINCE LICHNOWSKY DEFENDED.

London, April 3.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam, Herr Harder, writing in Die Zukunft, defends Prince Lichnowsky. He says:—"It is unnecessary for such a man who is wealthy and holding such a high social and political position to prove that he loves his country which is the source of all his power and glory. Moreover the essential facts were admitted by Dr. von Bethmann Hollweg in the White Book." Herr Harder criticises a passage proving that Germany assented to Austria-Hungary's action against Serbia knowing it might lead to war with Russia. He adds that Prince Lichnowsky merely amplified this.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE LICHNOWSKY DISCLOSURES.

London, April 2.
The German newspapers contain lengthy "observations" by Von Jagow, the German Foreign Secretary, between 1912 and 1916 on the Lichnowsky disclosures. His intention is to confuse some of them, but incidentally he confirms a great deal. For instance he speaks of Sir Edward Grey's "love of peace and desire to reach an agreement." He also says: "I am by no means willing to adopt the opinion at present widely held in Germany that England caused the war."

BRAZIL WARSHIPS FOR EUROPE.

London, April 2.
The Press Bureau states that replying to the President of Brazil's announcement of the early departure of warships to Europe, the King says the Navy is anticipating their co-operation with profound satisfaction, adding that Brazilian airmen are receiving an enthusiastic welcome by the Royal Air Force.

GERMANY AND RUSSIA.

London, April 2.
A wireless Russian official message states: Replying to Berlin the Russian Government has promised to take the severest measures to prevent the Red Guards entering Finland.

A BULGARIAN THREAT.

Zagreb, April 2.
The Bulgarian Generalissimo Bohchev, in a blistering interview published in the "Nedelno Zvezdo," said the Bulgarian army is ready to give Greece a violent lesson.

JAPANESE POLITICS.

Tokyo, April 3.
The report that Baron Uchida has been appointed Foreign Minister is without foundation.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE GREAT BATTLE.

Crack German Soldiers Beaten.

London, April 3.
Reuter's correspondent at French Headquarters, telegraphing to-day, states:—The enemy having failed in yesterday's attack on the Lassigny-Montdidier line, shifted his weight, according to his tactics of alternative strokes, to the line of the Avre from Montdidier to Moreuil. In consequence of the capture of Montdidier the Germans were able to dig a pocket into our line on the west river bank which they are persistently seeking to enlarge. Having captured the village of Malpart, a mile west of the Avre and three miles north of Montdidier, the Germans on Sunday renewed their attack with the object of extending their position west of the river. The enemy incessantly assaulted the village of Grivesnes, which is on the high road from Montdidier to Amiens. They used their best troops and fought with great fury. The first Guards Division, which is the very elite of the German Army, after terrible hand-to-hand fighting took the village, but two hours later a splendid French counter-attack took the village at the point of the bayonet. The Germans returned to the assault with extraordinary fury. French armoured cars with their machine-guns were brought up and drove back in disorder assaulting waves of the First Grenadier Regiment and the Prussian Guards. The battle is not yet concluded.

Two British Successes.

London, April 2.
Reuter's correspondent at British Headquarters reports to-day: During the past twenty-four hours there have been only comparatively minor affairs with the balance of success very largely on our side. We carried out two very smart little enterprises yesterday. A small infantry attack south of Hebuterne, mentioned by Sir Douglas Haig to-day, improved our position among the quarries. It is stated that at least a hundred German dead were counted along the front of this attack. Our casualties were quite slight. The second affair was an attack on the wood south-west of Hangard, wherein two battalions of Germans penetrated during the slight enemy advance along the Luce River on Saturday afternoon. Here we took fifty prisoners and thirty machine guns.

The general situation momentarily is that the main movement of fresh and moderately fresh enemy divisions continues to be towards the zone between the Somme and Montdidier, whilst north of the Somme we succeeded, anyway temporarily, in stabilising our line. Further insight into the extent of the German losses is given by the following figures: It is estimated that the 208th Division lost 70 per cent of its effectives. The 88th Division lost 30 per cent in the first day's attack and 40 per cent in the attack on Mezières on March 29.

The attack of the Fourth Division north of the Scarpe collapsed owing to the casualties. The Fifth Division had 50 per cent of casualties in taking Ham and further losses in forcing a passage over the Somme. It is noteworthy that a considerable increase in enemy artillery at Passchendaele and Goudberg Spur is reported, but the Germans are so heavily committed upon the present battle front that it is not easy to believe that they will now try an offensive elsewhere. It is now permissible to say that it was the New Zealanders, who carried out the attack at Lacigne Farm, taking over 200 prisoners and 109 machine guns.

Other Reports.

London, April 2.
The Press Bureau reports: The day was quiet on the whole British front. There was no serious fighting on the French front.

A wireless German official message says: The position is unchanged. Stubborn enemy counter-attacks near Hebuterne and between the Luce and Avre broke down heavily. The French continued shelling Loos, where there were numerous civilian victims. We shot down twenty-two aeroplanes and five balloons.

A French communiqué states: The night was relatively calm on the front from the Oise to the Somme. The artillery struggle assumed a certain activity on portions of the battlefield. Franco-British forces made some progress during the night between the Somme and Demuin.

Bombardment of Paris.

Paris, April 2.
The German long range bombardment re-started at 10.30 this morning.

A British Capture.

London, April 3.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports: We captured a German post in the neighbourhood of Serre.

French Batteries Busy.

London, April 3.
A French communiqué says: There is a somewhat lively artillery duel, especially between Montdidier and Lassigny. Our batteries caught under fire enemy concentrations east of Cantigny. A strong German reconnoitring party attacked but was repulsed by our troops on the left bank of the Oise, south-west of Gervais.

Aerial Activity.

London, April 3.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports: Our low-fliers dropped seventeen tons of bombs and fired thousands of rounds at infantry and other targets. Some low-flying hostile two-seaters on the southern portion of our front machine-gunned our men. We downed sixteen. The infantry brought down another within our lines. Eleven of ours are missing. Our night-fliers dropped many tons of bombs on the railway station at Cambrai, on a railway station south-east of Douai, the railway southward of Douai, also on billets and transport. All returned.

THE PALESTINE CAMPAIGN.

London, April 2.
A Palestine official message states: Our raiding operations against the Hedjaz Railway were successfully accomplished on March 30 and we commenced our retirement towards Essat. We effectively demolished several miles of railway and an important bridge. The enemy stubbornly resisted in prepared positions in and about Amman, whither the attack was not pressed. We easily repulsed a small Turkish attack on our rearguard. We took 700 prisoners and four guns between March 26 and April 1.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph.")

FORMER PUGILIST'S DEATH.

London, April 3.
The death is announced of Charlie Mitchell, the famous former pugilist.

ANTI-HAIG PRESS CAMPAIGN.

Mr. Bonar Law's Strong
Condemnation.

Questions arising out of the Cambrai debate caused some excitement in the House of Commons recently, and drew from Mr. Bonar Law, a trenchant and strongly expressed protest against discussions on strategy or the Army Command either in the House or in the Press. The House grew impatient while a series of supplementary questions were fired at Mr. Law, and it was plain that the great majority of the members endorsed his views.

Mr. George Lambert asked whether Sir Wm. Robertson and Sir Douglas Haig were considered by the War Cabinet to be the best men for their respective positions, and if unfair attacks on soldiers who had no opportunity of replying would be prevented. Sir Hedworth Mearns asked whether, in view of the public uneasiness which was being caused by newspaper attacks on high naval and military officers, any steps could be taken by the Government to stop such attacks.

Mr. Bonar Law replied as follows:—

"As long as Generals in the field hold high positions under the Government it must be assumed that they retain their confidence. (Cheers.) The distinguished officers referred to certainly form no exception to the rule. As to Press attacks, I should like to take this opportunity of deprecating in the strongest possible manner the discussions which have appeared in the Press for some time upon questions of the strategy and qualifications of individual officers—both of them questions unsuited for public discussion and embarrassing to the Government—(cheers)—in the discharge of their onerous and difficult duties. Once these discussions begin it is obvious that they can never be confined to one point of view. The responsibility must rest in these matters with the Government for the time being. They alone are in possession of the facts, and they cannot disclose them without injury to the public interest, and I would appeal to the Press on both sides to refrain from criticisms of this character, which are not only unfair to public servants but detrimental to the national interest."

"Does the answer mean that Sir Douglas Haig and Sir Wm. Robertson possess the full confidence of the Government?" asked Sir Hedworth Mearns. "The answer I gave stated that most clearly," answered Mr. Bonar Law.

Sir Henry Craik then asked Mr. Bonar Law whether, if his appeal to the Press is answered and complied with, he would instruct the Censor to take severe measures.

(Continued on page 8.)

DON'T FORGET.

TO-DAY.
Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinema—9.15 p.m.

TO-MORROW.
Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinema—9.15 p.m.

GENERAL NEWS.

Match Swindle.
Mrs. Tomlinson, manager of a tobacco shop at Gillingham, Kent, has been fined £1 at Chatham for selling small bundles of matches with 16 matches in each for a halfpenny. The magistrate told her it was a swindle, and that the profit worked out at 500 per cent.

Justice by Fireside.
"This court is perishingly cold," remarked Sir Samuel Evans, President of the Prize Court recently in inviting the counsel and parties to his room in order that he might hear the rest of the cases there. "It is more comfortable by the fire," said Sir Samuel. "Let the reporters come, too."

London Policemen's Higher Pay.
It was proposed, said the Home Secretary in the Commons recently, to increase the war bonus to the Metropolitan Police from 8s. to 12s. a week, with an added increase of from 1s. 6d. in the case of each dependant. As this would involve an increase in the metropolitan police rate, Parliamentary sanction would be necessary, and he proposed to introduce a Bill soon after the recess. The House greatly appreciated the services so cheerfully rendered by the Metropolitan Police during the war.

Ice Cream Substitute.
Owing to the fact that the Ice Cream Restriction Order has stopped the business of the vendors the Glasgow Temperance Traders' Defence Association and the Edinburgh and East Coast Temperance Traders' Association have applied to the Food Controller to exempt from the Order the manufacture of "water ice" (a substitute for ice cream). "In the composition of which neither sugar nor milk is used. The ingredients of water ice are water and liquid saccharin to sweeten it, and it is flavoured with fruit essence."

Girl Called up for Service.
Ellen Harriet Osborn, the girl of 18, who it was stated, for two years passed as "Charles Bryan Osborn," and had worked as a boy, was on Saturday at the Lambeth Police Court fined £10 and bound over. The charge was of masquerading in male attire. Her real identity, it will be recalled, was disclosed through the military authorities sending a calling-up notice. When arrested she said: "I did it for a bit of daring. I thought I could earn more money as a man than a woman." The father, who was in court said he advised the girl not to do it, and he could do no more.

Bishop of London Praises Mr. Lloyd George.
When we felt depressed with the discomforts and bloodshed and loss of our friends caused by the war, said the Bishop of London, at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, recently, the knowledge that God was eternal gave us extraordinary comfort. That was where the Prime Minister was so splendid in his references to the war. He lifted us up into an entirely new atmosphere, and put an ideal before us. In his last speech Mr. Lloyd George spoke of the new world, towards which we were looking. He did not care to what political side the Prime Minister belonged, but thanked God that we had a leader who believed in God.

Eton's Oldest Inhabitant.
The death has occurred at Eton, in his 92nd year, of Mr. Thomas Hawer, Eton's oldest inhabitant. Until recently he walked about six miles almost daily. He was born at Windsor in 1826, and as he had remembered being present at the lying-in-state of William IV., and seeing Queen Victoria enter Windsor after her Coronation. On that day, also he saw a balloon ascent by a lady in the Long Walk, Windsor Great Park. He could recall many Royal funerals at the Castle, usually at night by torchlight. He witnessed two Eton Montems at Balthill, and often went from Windsor to London by coach. As a lad he took part in the "Windsor Revels," formerly held in the Bishop's Acre, Windsor, and walked over to Langley to see what was then a "liberal" on the Great Western line.

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ARMY COMMANDS.

The War Office and the
Civilian Soldiers.

The Lobby Correspondent of the Daily News writes:—
The War Office view, whether right or wrong, is that they have in the past given a proper proportion of the higher appointments in the Army to the civilian soldiers, which is the professional military name for the new and Territorial armies. The professional soldier are those of the old Army. This is the War Office case, in reply to the criticism of the Army appointments, as was noted in these columns the other day.

The authorities at the War Office further state that their intention is that these appointments from the civilian side of the Army shall be continued in the future as in the past, and they disclaim any knowledge of a brand-new decision to appoint forthwith a large number of brigadier-generals from the civilian side, a rumoured decision which has been announced with some circumstantiality in two or three of our contemporaries.

The first Brigadier-General appointed from the civilian soldiers was General Freyberg V.O., who was a professional man before the war. He received his appointment in November, 1916 after the battle of Beaumont-Hamel. Among others are Brigadier-General Arthur Armitage and Brigadier-General Bradford, who was only 25, and was killed at Cambrai. There is also the recent case of Lieut.-Col. Douglas Bamford, D.S.O.

The rumours of intrigues afoot against the High Command are still rife.
On the third reading of the Military Service Bill in the House of Commons a point of importance which will be raised by Mr. Percy Harris, Col. Ashley, and Mr. Dickinson is that all the work of the Tribunal of the last two years in the exemption of men on the score of work done of national importance is to be swept away by the transference to the National Service Department.

WAR CHARITIES COMMITTEE.

A MEETING of the War Charities General Committee, which the British Community is invited to attend, will be held at 5.30 P.M. on MONDAY 8th April, 1918, in the Chamber of Commerce Room, City Hall. His Excellency the Governor will preside.

Business:—
1. To receive the report of the Executive Committee.
2. To add further members to the General Committee.
3. To invite and discuss suggestions.

The election of an Executive Committee by the General Committee will take place after the meeting.

E. R. HALLIFAX,
Honorary Secretary,
War Charities Committee,
3, 4, 18.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY
CONCERN.

I have this day resumed business as a Solicitor and Notary Public under my former firm name of Goldring and Phillips at No. 7, Queen's Road Central (top floor).

PHILIP W. GOLDING,
Hongkong, 2nd April, 1918.

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1918.

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Entrance fees for Dogs and/or Cats \$2 each exhibit.

No entrance fee for Poultry or Pigeons.

Entry forms and a specimen cage for exhibiting Poultry are now available.

Entries close to the Under signed up to noon the 13th April.

G. W. GEGG,
Hon. Secretary & Treasurer.
c/o Messrs. HUGHES & HOUGH.
Hongkong, 26th March, 1918.

UNIVERSITY OF HONGKONG.

THE University requires the services of a part-time Teacher of Practical Chemistry for four afternoons weekly, commencing in September next. Applications to be addressed to THE REGISTRAR.

Hongkong, 26th March, 1918.

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Honorary Secretaries & Treasurers.
Hongkong, 15th January, 1917.

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TEL. 2050. HONGKONG.

MASSAGE.

MR. THOMAS, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

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By Order, "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

BIRTH.

MITCHELL.—At 13, Macdonnell Road, Hongkong, on 3rd April, to Captain and Mrs. T. A. Mitchell, a daughter. Kobe and Yokohama papers please copy.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 1918.

THE UNITED STATES AND THE WAR.

In one of our Notes yesterday we commented upon the important decisions that had been reached as the result of communications between Mr. Lloyd George and President Wilson. These decisions, it would be seen, had reference to the increased man power which the United States had decided must be sent from America so as to cope with "the coming critical months." Rightly or wrongly, there is, undoubtedly a feeling prevailing in some quarters that the promised help from the United States has not fully materialised, despite the fact that the American Navy was speedily put in action and several transports of troops sent to England and afterwards to France in a very expeditious manner. It is now nearly a year since the United States definitely threw in their lot with the Allies and it is regarding what they did in the first few months that we refer. No doubt the many difficulties encountered in transporting troops and in crossing of the Atlantic, so full of additional perils in these days of submarine warfare, chiefly accounted for the comparatively small number of troops that seem to have since been despatched from the United States. It would appear that the principal obstacle, next to the lack of transport facilities, lay and lies in the fact that the Americans are carrying out preparations on a vast scale. Such preparations necessarily demand considerable time to materialise; but it is evident that now and not later is the all-important time for assistance to be despatched to the aid of the British and French troops fighting so valiantly with depleted forces—chiefly on account of large numbers having been despatched to Italy. Rapidity of action on America's part would be the most valuable service that could be rendered to the British and French forces.

The latest news to hand shows that large numbers of battalions are now to be despatched as expeditiously as possible and doubtless there will also be a general speeding up of the vast preparations that are in hand. If the American "Shipping Programme" materialises—and there are good reasons for believing that such will be the case—a very different aspect will be put upon the situation. It is clear that now is the all-important time for the Allies to strike a powerful blow as they possibly can, and, with the assistance which the United States is able to give, and, of course, willing and eager to give, it will be of such a nature that should go far towards proving to be decisive.

One of the most gratifying telegrams to hand from America tells us that an Agreement has been arrived at as the result of which, during the war, strikes and lock-outs will be banned. By this means the Government of the United States should be able to expedite all they are doing here to do towards rendering further assistance in giving the Boche his quietus. In short, it is far better that we should have as much assistance now from the United States as they can give us than that we should have to wait indefinitely for America's maximum effort, that may not at the time of its arrival be quite so official. Some of the telegrams point to this step as likely to be realised, and the general opinion will very probably be that it cannot be realised too soon.

War Charities.

The public may well feel gratified at the financial statement which has just been issued by the Hongkong War Charities Committee and which we published in our issue of yesterday. This shows that since the time when the Committee was brought into being, some two years ago, a total of close on seventy thousand pounds sterling has been distributed, in addition to very substantial gifts in kind. Looking back to the co-ordination of effort which the formation of the Committee brought about, there can be no doubting the wisdom of the step by which the disposal of the subscriptions was centralised in one body, and the point that must occur to those who have looked through the published list is that a very excellent discrimination has been shown in the distribution of the funds. The Committee has certainly done good work, and it is to be hoped that the movement for an extension of its personnel will lead to even better results still.

Tennis Tournaments.

The tennis tournament season is again commencing, and soon we shall be witnessing some excellent games on the Hongkong Cricket Club ground. This year there is a very gratifying entry in the various competitions. Particular interest will be centred in the Singles Championship, for on this occasion, Mr. Green, having won the cup outright last year, will have to play right through the competition and will thus be subject to circumstances which would not prevail were he merely to wait for the winner to emerge into the challenge round. He will have to face some good players, but if he is in his old form he should again come through all right. A new feature this year is the appearance of Japanese players in the competition. This will invest the tournaments with additional interest. Seeing how well many Japanese play the game, it is rather to be wondered at that they have not entered before, though whether or not the men now participating will be able to do well against the experienced players they will have to meet is open to question. Be that as it may, their entry is very welcome, for it yet further emphasises the international character of the competitions.

The Situation at Vladivostok.

From one of to-day's telegrams it would appear that the Austro-German prisoners recently in the hands of the Russians, but now set free owing to the anarchical conditions which have been prevailing in that country, are not all destined for Western theatres of war. A message from Tokyo says that at Irkutsk, Siberia's capital, there are at present sixteen thousand prisoners of war, or, more correctly, men who are no longer prisoners. As in Irkutsk the military organisation is, as is pointed out, "purely German" it cannot be doubted that such a large number of Austro-Germans in such close proximity to China and the Far East generally, constitute a serious menace. Indeed, aided no doubt by the Bolsheviks resident in Vladivostok, who, unlike the vast majority of their political party, appear to be recognised to the degradation of German domination, numbers of these released prisoners are being drafted to that town. It is stated that they wear Russian uniforms and possess new arms, and doubtless they have sworn allegiance to the Bolshevik cause. This they will probably find convenient until the interests of Germany necessitate them acting otherwise.

Clearly, the situation in Vladivostok is becoming more than ever a serious problem for the Allies, who were quite content to let matters drift so long as the Bolsheviks did not overstep bounds which prudence ought to have suggested to them. That these bounds have been very much infringed is evident from one of the latest telegrams which refers to excesses committed by them. The only conclusion to arrive at, therefore, in the circumstances, is that if events up till recently did not justify Allied interference, they certainly do so now. Prompt and even drastic action is what is now required; and that it will be needed may confidently be anticipated.

DAY BY DAY.

THAT WHICH SEEMS TO BE WEALTH MAY IN FACT BE ONLY THE GUILDED INDEX OF FARR-REACHING RUIN.—Ruskin.

To-morrow's Anniversary.
To-morrow is the anniversary of the death of Robert Raikes, the founder of Sunday Schools (1811).

The Dollar.
The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was 3s. 1½d.

Spotted Fever.
For the twenty-four hours ended yesterday there were 10 cases of spotted fever notified, with eight deaths. All but one of the cases occurred in the City of Victoria, and all the sufferers were Chinese.

Cricket Match.
H. K. C. C. meet the University on the Club ground on Saturday, the 6th inst., at 2 p.m. The University team will be:—A. F. Bonjahn (Capt.), R. B. Ponsonby, G. E. Harley, K. Brayshaw, J. D. Wright, F. A. Redmond, D. K. Syme, W. Gittins, G. Hall, J. M. Jack and T. L. Ohash.

Insufficient Proof.
At the Police Court this morning, before Mr. A. Dyer Ball, a Chinese pleaded not guilty to the theft of \$45 in banknotes at Salt Fish Lane yesterday. Complainant said he saw a crowd outside a shop, when two men, one of whom was defendant, went close up to him and robbed him of the money. Defendant was discharged, his Worship saying he did not think there was sufficient proof.

War Lecture.
The public will learn with deep interest that Colonel Wardlaw Milne, who is passing through the Colony, and who was with General Maude in Mesopotamia, is to give a lecture on the Mesopotamian Campaign at the Peak Club at 9.30 p.m. on Monday next. The lecture will be illustrated with cinema films and the proceeds will go entirely to the Red Cross Fund.

Adjourned.
At the Police Court this morning, a young Chinese was charged before Mr. J. R. Wood, with being in unlawful possession of a quantity of wood. An Indian constable said he saw defendant carrying the timber in Cross Street last night. As soon as he saw he had been observed, he put the wood down and sat in a side channel. Defendant said he was merely sitting down when he was arrested. The case was remanded.

Alice Memorial Hospital.
The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the Hospitals:—Mr. N. M. H. Nemesee, \$40; Linstead and Davis, \$25; Little, Adams and Wood, \$25; Morson and Taylor, \$25; Palmer and Turner, \$25; Cunningham and Co., Ltd., \$25; Thorpe and Co., \$25; Wilkinson and Armit, \$25; Wilkinson Heywood and Clark, \$25; Worcester Lammert and Silva, \$25.

A Murder Charge.
Before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Police Court this morning, the Chinese who was recently acquitted of the Grosvenor Street murder charge, appeared in answer to a charge of murdering a Chinese at Yaumatei. Mr. Leo Longinotte, Assistant Crown Solicitor, appeared and said a certain communication had been sent to the Colonial Secretary with reference to the case, but no reply had been received. In consequence of this delay he would ask His Worship to grant a short remand. His Worship ordered defendant's discharge.

A Cook Discharged.
The case was continued at the Police Court this morning in which a cook to some Japanese living on Macdonnell Road is charged with the theft of 160 Singapore dollars. Mr. E. J. Grist appeared for the prosecution. Defendant's master said he received a letter from the Chief Engineer of the S.S. Tai Wan Maru to be delivered to the complainant. Witness gave the letter to the defendant and asked him to deliver it to the complainant. Witness did not know whether the letter contained money or not; he was never told it contained money. Defendant denied that any letter had been given him to deliver. His Worship ordered defendant's discharge.

RACECOURSE DISASTER.

Mr. Lo's Address and To-day's Evidence.

Before the Court rose last evening in the enquiry into the Racecourse disaster, Mr. M. K. Lo gave his address to the jury.

Mr. Lo said:—With your Worship's permission I propose to indicate very shortly the attitude which my clients, who are the families of some of the unfortunate people who perished in the disaster, desire to take up as regards this enquiry, and to make a few remarks on their behalf. Although they are among the people who suffer most and are therefore the most interested in the result of this enquiry, they do not wish to endeavour to fix the blame on somebody irrespective of whether any blame can be properly found. On the other hand they feel that it is in part of the duty they owe to their dead relatives that they should do all they can to assist in locating the responsibility and do all they can in the finding of negligence and in urging that proper steps should be taken to prevent the recurrence of similar disasters. I do not propose to dwell upon the evidence at any length, because I feel that the special jury appreciate it very much more than I do, but I should like to make a few general observations. To begin with I think I am right in saying that until Col. Ward gave evidence, the evidence of technical experts on the structure consisted of a series of satisfied commendations upon the contractors' skill. These commendations were subsequently by Colonel Ward, the O.S.P. and others certainly proved rather conclusively that the matcheds were not built in as perfect a manner as they could have been built and that they had many points of weakness. It seems to me that there can only be three hypotheses as to the collapse, I submit to you that there is no evidence of panic or cause of panic and therefore the collapse could not have originated from such sources. There is no satisfactory evidence that the sheds had been tampered with and therefore they could not have fallen through tampering, and so the only other possible hypothesis is that the sheds fell because of certain inherent weaknesses. I submit that the mode of construction is more than a possible explanation of the disaster. That is all I really want to say on the construction of the matcheds. I want to press on to a few observations with regard to the fire. Although it appears to be common knowledge that matcheds are very difficult, if not impossible, to put out and although we had previous to the disaster two or three matcheds fire in the Colony, which might have acted as a warning to the authorities, the evidence shows that no precautions of whatsoever nature were taken to ensure the safety of the public in the event of a fire outbreak. As I understand it Mr. Chatham has admitted that his Department was perhaps at fault, but he thought that that fault should be shared by his predecessors in title. I am not really very much concerned with that. The astounding thing to me is that although the water pressure was tested by a responsible officer of the Crown, namely the A.S.P., in 1914 and found to be inadequate; and that fact was communicated to the P.W.D., nothing was done to prevent fires by the way of any precautions. We have it in evidence that a three inch main can never give a proper water supply. I should not have thought that it would have been such a very difficult thing for a water tank to have been sent to the Race Course and a hose connected. The rather astounding thing is that at about the time of this communication the authorities in charge allowed the three storeyed matcheds to be built for the first time. We do not know when they were built but they were not built prior to 1914, and according to evidence, while three storeyed matcheds could have been built to be structurally sound, in the event of fire they proved to be nothing more or less than death traps. If it had not been for the fact that there were three storey-

ed matcheds the deaths would not have been anything like so heavy. As regards what you may call the regulations and the inspection of the matcheds by the P.W.D., I think you have made up your minds that there are in fact really no regulations at all. And with regard to the inspection it must have been of rather a cursory nature, because I think I am right in saying that Mr. Sara said he inspected the sheds on three occasions. The contractor himself admits that the sheds had practically not begun on two of the days on which Mr. Sara inspected them, so really they were inspected only once. Having regard to all these points I say that the disaster was not an unforeseeable one. I submit that it could, and ought to have been, foreseen. In short it is not an act of God, but the work of man. Of course you will form your own opinion as to who should shoulder the responsibility, whether the P.W.D. alone, or the O.P.S. alone, or both or neither. I submit there is negligence on the part of some one and having found out who the person is the really important thing is as regards the means of prevention in the future, and here I come to my submissions. I submit that no matcheds of three or more storeys should ever be allowed to be built, that there should be proper regulations framed both as to the number of persons to be accommodated and as to the structure, including exits etc., and that irrespective of the difficulty involved, precautions against fire should be made, such as the provision of a watertank and a fire engine in residences. If the nature of the case makes that impossible then all I can say is that matcheds should not be allowed to be built at all, but proper brick buildings should be provided at the expense of the Government. I have dealt with the case from the point of view of the responsibility of the Government. My clients do not propose to approach the question from the point of view as to whether or not the lessees were liable, because they do not wish to proceed in that connection, but I would like to read to you a very interesting recent case, because incidentally it might be of assistance to you when you consider the responsibility of the Government in the matter, for I take it that what amounts to negligence on the part of the lessees would be evidence of want of care to the public on the part of the Government.

Mr. Lo then quoted the case and thanked his Worship and the jury for their patient hearing in the enquiry.

To-day's Proceedings.

Mr. G. H. Wakeman, Crown Solicitor, said he wished to make a short statement before the enquiry proceeded. He said:—At the conclusion of the sitting of the Court yesterday, Mr. Wright, who had been a witness, thought fit to criticise my conduct in this enquiry. Mr. Wright said it seemed to him that I had conducted this enquiry with a view to protecting the Police as much as possible to the prejudice of the P. W. D. He further said that all the evidence was collected by the Police and such a thing was quite wrong and in favour of the Police. He hinted in this room that I was endeavouring to keep back evidence that might be in favour of the P.W.D. Such statements regarding my position in this enquiry can only mean one thing—a charge of unprofessional conduct. I have received instructions from His Excellency the Governor to do my best to make the enquiry as searching as possible. This included one thing, and that was to make an endeavour to find out the facts concerning the piling of the matcheds by the P. W. D. I regret to have to make this statement, but I feel I cannot allow it to pass unnoticed. If such expressions are allowed to go about my position is most unsatisfactory. As your Worship is aware, I have been in frequent communication with you regarding the evidence given by expert witnesses, and I had not the slightest idea what they were going to say. They were called here, some of them, at the request of the jury. I tried to keep in mind what they were going to say and for that reason I have not taken

A DEAL IN PEARLS.

Charge of False Pretences.

Before Mr. Dyer Ball, at the Police Court this afternoon, a Chinese woman was charged with obtaining the sum of \$959 from another Chinese woman by false pretences.

Mr. Balmer Johnson prosecuted, and Mr. F. X. D'Almeida defended. In outlining the case, Mr. Johnson stated that the complainant was a travelling dealer in jewels and became acquainted with the defendant, whom she heard had some pearls for sale. There were some interviews and eventually it was agreed that the pearls would be sold for \$959. The money was paid and the pearls handed over, but they were given back again, as the defendant stated that she wished to show them to her husband and get his consent to the sale. This happened at the defendant's house at 7, Shelley Street, and the defendant went into a cubicle and changed her clothing, and, on coming out, handed the complainant's package supposed to contain the pearls. Later it was discovered that the pearls had been substituted for imitation pearls. The defendant was misused for two days and was later arrested on a warrant. The husband had also disappeared and had not been found. Evidence was then taken. The case is proceeding.

a statement from them before-hand.

Mr. Wright:—This has come as a great shock to me. It is astounding; nothing of the sort has been said. The few words I spoke to Mr. Wakeman yesterday were uttered in perfect good fellowship and friendship. I did not imply anything like that. I did not mean to be rude.

Mr. Wakeman:—I am repeating the exact words.

Mr. Wright:—I withdrew everything. I do not think I said anything like that. I can only say that Mr. Wakeman has misunderstood me. I asked Mr. Wakeman if we could have further expert evidence. Mr. Wakeman replied that he did not think it was hardly necessary, and I said I thought it would be desirable. I am sorry if Mr. Wakeman misunderstood me. I said a few words but I had no intention of making any imputation of any kind. I am astounded and shocked and I apologise to Mr. Wakeman.

The Coroner:—Mr. Wright has had the opportunity of setting at rest any misunderstanding. The enquiry has been conducted with perfect fairness to all concerned.

Mr. Wright:—I quite agree. Mr. Wakeman:—I am very thankful for all that Mr. Wright has said. I only repeated the exact words Mr. Wright said.

Recalled, Mr. Wright commented in various points in the evidence. He said it was possible that the structure was altered by some one unintentionally. He disagreed with Col. Ward on several points. He agreed with him that the 1914 models were better forms of structure than the 1918 models.

By Mr. Bowley:—In passing plans of buildings, floors of different levels were often passed. He had said something might have got out of place before the collapse and he agreed that it would have been wise to have an inspection made of the matcheds every morning before the Races commenced. It was impracticable to satisfactorily criticise plans of matcheds if they were submitted, as they possessed such a vast quantity of detail. The statement (produced) referring to exits was made by Mr. Chatham and was as follows: "Exits for sheds 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13 were adequate. The exits on the ground floor of No. 1 were unsatisfactory. On the first and second floors they were satisfactory. Exits on the ground floor of No. 14 were adequate, but unsatisfactory as regards upper floors. Shed 15 was satisfactory as regards the top floor. Sheds 17, 18 and 19, one story, there was no information." The enquiry was adjourned at this time there being no sitting this afternoon.

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TERO MARU	25,000	9th April.
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KOREA MARU	13,000	24th May.
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CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

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SHANGHAI	Yingchow	6th Apr. at 3 p.m.
CHEFOO & TIENTSIN	Huichow	7th Apr. at noon.
SHANGHAI	Suiyang	9th Apr. at 3 p.m.
SHANGHAI	Sinkiang	11th Apr. at 3 p.m.

SHANGHAI LINE—PASSENGERS, MAILS AND CARGO.
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good accommodation for first Class Passengers, Electric Light and
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Steamships. Captain. Leaving.

Hailong... J. W. Evans... THURS. 4th Apr. at 8 light.

Haitan... A. E. Hodgins... TUES. 9th Apr. at noon.

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(Projected Sailings from Hongkong.—Subject to Alteration)

For	Steamship	On
MANILA	Loongsang	Fri., 5th Apr. at 3 p.m.
SHANGHAI	Wingsang	Sun., 7th Apr. at 8 light.
HAIPHONG	Loksang	Sun., 7th Apr. at 7 a.m.
MANILA	Yuensang	Fri., 12th Apr. at 3 p.m.

CALCUTTA LINE—Three sailings per month from Hongkong to Calcutta calling at Singapore and Penang.

Returning from Calcutta steamers proceed to Kobe and Moji, frequently calling at Shanghai.

These steamers have excellent passenger accommodation, are fitted with Electric Light and

carry a fully qualified surgeon. This line is temporarily discontinued owing to the war.

Particulars on application.

SHANGHAI LINE—Sailings approximately every few days between Canton and Shanghai, sometimes

calling at Swatow. Steamers on this line have a limited amount of passenger accommo-

dation, and through tickets can be obtained for Northern and Southern Ports via Shanghai.

Through Bills of Lading are issued to all Northern and Southern Ports.

MANILA LINE—A weekly service is maintained with Manila by vessels with good passenger accom-

modation, sailings from both ports every Friday.

HAIIPHONG LINE—Sailings approximately weekly for passengers and cargo, calling at other than

indicated on chart.

BORNEO LINE—One sailing per month between Hongkong and Sandakan by a steamer having up-to-

date accommodation for passengers.

Cargo taken on through Bills of Lading for Kato, Jesselton, Labuan, Tawau and Labuan, etc.

TIENTSIN LINE—A regular service is run from March to October between Hongkong and Tientsin

calling at Weihaiwei and Chiaofoo.

Under Straits Government Passport Regulations.

All European Passengers, leaving the Colony for Straits Settle-
ment, are required to produce on arrival at destination passports
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SHIPPING NEWS.

Shipmaster's Great Honor.

In connection with an engage-
ment with the enemy, which
resulted in his being granted the
Distinguished Service Cross, a
well-known captain, member of
the Imperial Merchant Service
Guild, writes to inform the
secretary that he has been done
the great honour by the Com-
mittee of Lloyd's of a bar being
given to him the Lloyd's Silver
Medal which he obtained in
February, 1902. The Committee
of Lloyd's have requested the
captain to send his medal along
to them in order that they can
go into the matter of designing
a bar for it; this being the first
time that Lloyd's Committee have
ever given a bar to their medal.
The captain naturally considers
this a great honour, and is very
proud of it. In connection with
the same incident he was awarded
£200 for himself and crew by the
Admiralty, as well as being
granted the D.S.O., to which sum
the owners have added £300. It
is interesting to note that since
the action happened the captain
obtained a commission in the
Royal Naval Reserve, and is now
a Lieutenant R.N.R. in one of the
Royal Fleet Auxiliaries.

Manila's Enemy Merchant
Ships.

An official statement issued at
the conclusion of the cabinet
meeting yesterday (says the
"Manila Daily Bulletin") of
March 27 is as follows:—The
Philippine cabinet at its session
this afternoon took up the
question of the charter of six of
the ex-German merchant vessels to
a private corporation in the
city of Manila for operation in
Philippine waters, in the Saigon
rice trade, and the transportation
of sugar to China, and Japan.
Several bids were opened and the
one accepted was that submitted
by Madrigal and company, which
was by far the most favourable
from the standpoint of the
Government. The charter of these
vessels will be made under the
following conditions: That the
vessels be retained in Philippine
trade, Saigon rice trade, or in the
transportation of sugar to China
and Japan. That the charterer
provide other tonnage for the
transportation of 100,000 tons of
coal from China or Japan to the
Philippine Islands for the
Philippine Government and the
Manila Railroad Company. The
charter of these vessels is
particularly advantageous to the
Philippine Government. In addition
to the financial consideration,
it offers the following advantages:

1. Insures the Government and the Manila Railroad Company a supply of coal for the remainder of the year, which would be extremely doubtful if the Government continued to operate the smaller boats in the transportation of coal from China and Japan, as such vessels are not of a size suitable for that service.
2. Insures placing some of these vessels in Saigon rice trade and the others in inter-island trade.
3. Gives the Government an opportunity to fix the maximum freight rate on rice from Saigon and on sugar from the Philippines to China and Japan.

Under the charter, the Government will have the privilege of requisitioning any of these vessels at any time such action may be necessary on account of public necessity, on payment to the charterer of exactly the same amount he pays to the Government for the vessel requisitioned. The contract between the Government and the charterer will be subject to cancellation on 60 days' notice. This latter clause is necessary in view of the fact that the vessels are chartered to the Philippine Government by the United States Shipping Board with a similar provision. The question of the charter of these vessels has been the subject of discussion in several meetings of the cabinet during the past 10 days. It was finally concluded this evening by the acceptance of the offer of Madrigal and company as above outlined. Aside from the ship at Bangkok the seven ex-German vessels which have been in the Insular Government Service are the Nipic (Borneo) of 2,368 gross tons; the Quentice (Luzon) of 1,925 gross tons; this replacing the ill-fated Davel which went aground and finally to the bottom in one of the inland seas of Japan last year; the Quincentin (Fogong) of 1,661 gross tons; the Isogo (Johanne) of 1,537 gross tons; the Yazo (Marian) of 1,514 gross tons; the St. Paul (Carl Dietrichsen) of 1,243 gross tons; and the Mi-gel (Wiegand) of 99 gross tons.

AMERICAN RED CROSS.

Four Months' Work in France.

After four months' work in France, the American Red Cross has issued an official report of its work and aims. The reading of this report is interesting; it discloses vast fields of work for many months to come, and indicates a comprehensive programme. The aims of the society are set forth as three:—Service to the American Army, to serve the sick and wounded of the French Army, and to give general help to French civilians.

The two first aims come within the sphere of the military authorities, and the former of the two is necessarily confined to preparations for that moment when the American Army shall go into action. It is organization can insure perfection of service when that moment comes. The American soldiers should be as well looked after in the field as they are in the training camp, for nothing is wanting in hygiene, luxuries, and the Red Cross works in complete accord with the Army, supporting it at every point and supplying reserves of everything for an emergency. Supplies are limitless, and with the experience of Great Britain and France upon which to base their plans, much more may be done for the American soldier than it has been possible to do for either the British or French soldier.

Dispensaries, diet kitchens, auxiliary plants for the making of anesthetics, ice and splints, laundries, dental ambulances, sterilizing plants, barracks, rest stations on the front, and recuperative stations in summer and winter resorts for tired, wounded, or ill men, are being organized with that perfection of detail for which the Americans are noted; so that wherever their soldiers go they will find necessities and even luxuries to mitigate the horrors of war.

The nursing service of the Red Cross is also working hand-in-hand with the Army, and at a recent conference in Paris, one of a series, a plan was studied by which the Red Cross undertakes to have a reserve of well-trained, physically fit nurses always ready to be called upon by the Army in an emergency. Furthermore, a nurses' rest home is to be established, so that every tired nurse, like every tired soldier, may have a place to go to for recuperation, and the many American women in France who know the things their women miss most in Europe, will have a chance of perfecting the installation and bringing it up to American ideas of comfort.

Another auxiliary service of the Red Cross which is doing good work is the medical research bureau. A monthly bulletin is issued giving account of all that is being done for the benefit of the world at large, and no efforts or money are being spared to make this branch of the work as perfect and as thorough as such work can be, so that whatever science can do for suffering humanity shall be done. Yet another branch is that which makes artificial limbs, and already this branch is doing excellent work for the French. The emergency medical stores is also interesting. It is piling up masses of dressings, hospital fittings, and clothes, so that within a few hours, in an emergency, the American Army can be supplied with anything and everything wounded men may want.

For the French Army the American Red Cross is no less generous. It supplies the military hospitals of France with three-fourths of all they need. Even before America came into the war it did much, and private funds much also, but since America joined us charity has centralized all its efforts in the Red Cross, and the help is twice as effective. Five hospitals are run entirely for the French by Americans, surgical dressings are supplied in vast quantities, diet kitchens are being installed in military hospitals all over the country, and since July 140 artificial limbs have been given out to French soldiers. The Red Cross caters for the French on the front and behind the lines as already important in number,

NATIONAL WAR BONDS.

A Second Series Issued.

We are informed by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation that they have received a telegram from their London Office to the effect that the issue of the first series of 5 per cent. National War Bonds has been closed, but a second series is now being issued on the same terms except that the dates of repayment are 1st April, 1922, at 102 per cent., 1st April, 1925, at 103 per cent., and 1st April, 1928, at 105 per cent.

CANTON NEWS.

Our Canton correspondent writes as follows:—

According to information received from Chan King-ming, Resident Commander at Swatow, a large number of Fukien troops are continuously arriving in the Ohia Oo and Wingtung districts. The offensive upon Ohia Chow, Kwangtung, will probably commence very soon. Chan King-ming has also ordered his armies to make preparation for a counter-attack upon Fukien Province.

It is learned that the Director of Customs and Foreign Affairs at Swatow has arranged with the various Consuls to take action to guard against the epidemic in Hongkong reaching Swatow. A sum of \$18,200 has been ordered to be appropriated by the Canton Government therefor.

The Authority has received a telegram from General Tong Kai-yin, Tachan of Yunnan, requesting the South-Western leaders to continue fighting against the North and not to enter peace negotiations.

The Superintendent of Police in Canton has ordered the various Police Sections to recover the rifles which were stolen from the police by a number of bandits on the 29th ult., when a number of police were sent out to answer an alarm at Taz Poy, in the vicinity of Canton.

A "Taikoo" Wedding.

A wedding which was of particular interest to "Taikoo" people took place this morning at St. Joseph's Church, Garden Road, when Mr. George Grot, draftsman, Taikoo Dock, and Miss Dorothy Hardwick, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. Hardwick, well-known residents of "Taikoo," were joined in holy matrimony. The Rev. Father Augustine officiated. The bride, beautifully attired, was attended by Miss Macleod, as bridesmaid, and by two tiny little girls, while the bridegroom's "best man" was Mr. A. Stalker. After the reception, which was held in the Hongkong Hotel, the newly-married couple left for Macao to spend their honeymoon.

and every week the number grows. In this work the Americans cooperate with the French, and the canton workers are both French and American.

For the French civilians the American Red Cross is doing, and is contemplating the doing of, great things. The first help is given to old men, women, and children who have been repatriated or have remained in the liberated devastated districts, and for mutilated men who have been discharged from the Army. A grant of 5,000,000 francs has been made by the American Red Cross to the French Government, 1,000,000 francs being put into the hands of General Petain, and the rest being distributed through local Government agencies. The struggle against tuberculosis is also being taken up wholeheartedly by Americans, for, as statistics prove, it is one of the gravest of problems. New villages are to be built, new hospitals are to be fitted up, hygiene is to be preached all over the country, alcoholism is to be put down, children and women are to be properly fed and cared for, and the new age is to be a healthy one. The vision is beautiful one, and good wishes from all the world must attend it.—*Times*.

NEW BOARD OF TRADE.

Thinking Department and its Duties.

The promised scheme of reorganization of the Board of Trade to meet growing demands of commerce and industry after the war was issued recently as a White Paper. In order that the Board may be equipped for these new responsibilities as soon as the war ends the scheme is to be put into operation at once.

The work of the Board is now to be organized in two main divisions, viz., the Department of Commerce and Industry and the Department of Police Services Administration. The first will be mainly concerned with the development of trade, with vigilance, suggestion, and information, and with the duty of thinking out and assisting national commercial and industrial policy. The Public Services Department will be engaged primarily in the exercise of statutory and other administrative functions of a permanent nature affecting trade and transport. It will thus include the work performed by the present Marine, Railway, Harbour Companies, and Bankruptcy Department.

Each of these two main divisions will be in charge of a joint Permanent Secretary, the man in charge of the Department of Commerce and Industry ranking as senior. To determine questions of policy arising in either division the Permanent and Parliamentary Secretaries are to be held.

In turn, the Department of Commerce and Industry is to be subdivided into a number of sections, each in charge of an officer of Assistant Secretary rank. An important feature of the reorganization scheme is that the heads of Department are to make frequent visits to the chief centres of commerce and industry at home and abroad to widen their knowledge and experience and to give them a personal acquaintance with manufacturers, merchants, and industrial conditions.

The various sections of the Department of Commerce and Industry will deal with the following subjects:—

Commercial relations and treaties.
Overseas Trade.
Industries and manufactures.
Industrial property.
Statistical power and transport.
Statistics.

Of these two, in addition to a General Economic Department which is also to be set up as new departments. They will deal with industries and manufactures and industrial power and transport. The first will be concerned with home industries, with special reference to their development and stability, production, and the economic strength of the country generally, with questions of policy connected with monopolies and trade combinations, alien penetration into British industries, and the promotion of new trades. The section will also deal with matters relating to reconstruction of trades and industries.

The Power and Transport Department will be charged with questions relating to shipping, canal and railway rates and facilities, through railway rates, shipping conferences, as well as electricity, gas, and water power, conservation of fuel, petroleum etc.

The General Economic Department has been created to assist the Permanent Secretary on questions involving economic policy especially those beyond the sphere of the other special departments. This section will have no executive functions.

A strong advisory council, attached to the commerce and industry department, and representative of the commercial and manufacturing interests, is to meet frequently, and trade committees for each important group of industries are to be set up to advise the board on the technical needs.

Decorations for Australians.

Sir Ronald Munro-Ferguson, the Governor-General of Australia, has presented publicly a number of medals and decorations, including six D.C.M.'s and thirty-three Military Medals.

ANTI-HAIG PRESS CAMPAIGN.

(Continued from Page 1.)

"The suggestion," replied Mr. Bonar Law, "is more easily made than carried out. It would be no easier to deal with a discussion in the Press than to deal with one in this House."

Mr. Geo. Faber inquired if any member of the Government was behind the attack. "So far as I am aware, no," replied Mr. Bonar Law emphatically. Mr. Lambert asked why no member of the War Cabinet was present to defend Sir Douglas Haig on the previous night. Mr. Law replied that as he felt that a discussion of this kind was undesirable, he did not see why he should be called upon to listen to one.

Mr. Pringle demanded to know if it was not necessary that a public statement of the view of the War Cabinet should be made, so that the public might be reassured, particularly in view of the Press campaign which was commonly supposed to be stimulated from 10, Downing-street.

Mr. Law retorted that he had already stated the view of the War Cabinet, and part of that view of the War Cabinet, was that a discussion was undesirable. "That is all I can say now," he added.

Mr. Kennedy Jones asked what had happened in 1917 to restore confidence in Sir Douglas Haig, seeing that in January last he was by order of the War Cabinet made subordinate to General Nivelle.

"I do not admit the accuracy of the statement," Mr. Law replied. "Personally I should deprecate in the strongest way the idea that it is necessary for the Government to give continual testimonials as to the character of these officers."

Subsequently Mr. Ronald McKinnell asked Mr. Bonar Law whether he would give an early opportunity for the discussion of a motion expressing the confidence of the House in the competence of the General Staff and Sir Douglas Haig, and disapproving of the attacks made on these officers in Parliament and in the Press. Mr. Bonar Law's reply was to the effect that in the view of the Government a discussion of the incident was not desirable.

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES.

Among the forthcoming marriages which are announced are the following:—

Mr. Frank H. Fisher, mercantile accountant of Amoy, to Miss Charlotte Gittins of 19, Caine Road, Hongkong.

Mr. Frank G. Hertridge, mercantile assistant, of 6, Aimai Villas, Kowloon, to Miss Evelyn M. Packham, of 4, Kimberley Villas, Kowloon.

The Rev. W. T. Featherstone, of St. Paul's College, to Miss Mabel Benson, of the Government Civil Hospital.

The Route.

According to a Harbin dispatch received by the Yokohama Specie Bank of the 14th ultimo, the ruble exchange continues to improve, and is now 560 mables per ¥100,—that is, an improvement by no less than 300 mables compared with the unfavourable rate quoted some time ago. It is said that the advance is due to increased speculation in ruble notes as the result of the expectation that Japan will dispatch her troops to Siberia.

In Harbin there is a rumor that the Japanese Government will buy up ruble notes with which to pay for the purchases of her troops in Siberia. It is also rumored that the Japanese authorities may pay for ruble notes in the possession of Japanese on behalf of the Russian Government, as has been done in the case of Russian Treasury Bills. These rumors are believed to be responsible for the recent advance in the value of ruble notes.—*Japan Chronicle*.

POLICE RESERVE ORDERS.

Orders issued to-day by Mr. F. C. Jenkin, C.B.E., state:—

Commendation.
P. C. 204 Lam Kwai Yien is commended by the C. & P. for alertness in effecting the arrest when off duty of a pickpocket in Des Voeur Road central. (The officer has been twice previously commended by the Police Judge and the C. & P. respectively.)

Search Supervisors.
A complete collection of contraband goods is now on view at Headquarters office.

Boots.
The fifty-two members of No. 2 Platoon whose names were submitted on March 11th as requiring boots for police duty may obtain same by personally applying to Fook Sing, the contractor, 7, Queen's Road East.

Members of other units will not visit the Contractor until ordered to do so. They are required to at once send their names to their respective Equipment Officers, if not already done.

Boots will not be supplied to men failing to so send in their names before the 15th instant.

Ambulance Platoon.
The weekly lectures at the Tung Wah Hospital are discontinued until further order.

A TIME FOR STRONG NERVES.

Many people are worrying seriously over the high cost of living, and to all, war time, with its excitement and hysteria, is a trial to the strongest nerves. To those whose nervous systems are run down by overwork or worry, to those who are on the verge of neurasthenia, it is a time of danger.

There is no tonic for the nerves that is not a tonic for every other part of the body. There is no form of debility that does not rob the nerves of nourishment. The remedy, therefore, for nervous breakdown is a tonic that will build up the general health, revitalize the blood, and enable it to carry to the nerves the elements that they need.

Dr. Williams' pink pills are an ideal tonic for this condition, because they are non-alcoholic, and neurotic patients should avoid alcohol and other stimulants. These pills give strength and steady the nerves because they build up the blood, which can then do its work of invigorating the system.

Begin Dr. Williams' pink pills to-day; you can readily obtain them from any dealer, or direct, one bottle for \$1.50, 6 for \$8, from the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 96 Seachuen Road, Shanghai.

HEALTHY BABIES SLEEP WELL AT NIGHT.

A well child sleeps well and during its waking hours is never cross but always happy and laughing. It is only the sickly child that is cross and peevish. Mothers, if your children do not sleep well, if they are cross and cry a great deal, give them Baby's Own Tablets, the Canadian children's remedy, and they will soon be well and happy again. Concerning the Tablets Mrs. Chas. Duic, North Temecacoming, Quebec, writes:—"My baby was greatly troubled with constipation and cried night and day. I began giving her Baby's Own Tablets and now she is fat and healthy and sleeps well at night. The Tablets are sold by medicine dealers, or by mail at 60 cents a box from the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 96 Seachuen Road, Shanghai."

Japan's Gold Specie.

Japan's gold specie continues to increase. According to the latest returns published by the Finance Department, the total amounted to ¥1,004,000 on the 15th instant, ¥456,000,000 being held at home and ¥548,000,000 abroad. Compared with the figures for the end of February last, the portion held at home shows a decrease of ¥1,000,000, but an increase of ¥9,000,000 in the portion held abroad, or an increase of ¥8,000,000 in the total.—*Japan Chronicle*.

A WAR PICTURE.

The Soldiers' Shopping.

Ever since those early days of the war when the British Army advanced through some of the country that had already been swept bare of all minor supplies by the Germans there has been an unending supply, not only of rations, but of tobacco and all kinds of comforts for the British soldier.

Excellent as is the routine issue of food, clothing, tobacco and necessities of all kinds, the soldier likes to do a little shopping on his own account every now and then. It keeps him in touch with home life, and he is able to purchase small luxuries which mitigate the rigours of trench life. The remaining civilian inhabitants of the battle area soon found that even the meanest cottage could easily be converted into a shop. The peasant has a naturally a keen eye for a bargain, and he is naturally not averse to making a little money with which to help restore his ruined home. So that before the war had been going on for a year, there was scarcely a hamlet in the zone of the armies that was not supplying Tommy with luxuries and thereby benefiting itself.

Tommy is a good customer and too easy-going to drive a hard bargain; he is also something of a philosopher, and knowing that his tenure of life is not a security upon which any Life Assurance Office would quote a policy, he spends freely, thinking rather of the present than the future. His wants are easily satisfied; the weak beer of the country and its strong and aromatic "offices" are the chief demands which he makes upon the local estimators. The small shops sell him book-lace, writing paper, braces, gaudy silk and woolwork souvenir postcards, chocolate, fruit, and cigarettes. The larger establishments retail groceries, and having amended their stocks to suit their customers' tastes, they sell to Tommy the tinned Oxford sausages and the fragrant Yarmouth bleater of his native land.

The prices of these things in the actual fighting zone are not unnaturally somewhat high, but they are checked from becoming exorbitant by the opposition of Y.M.C.A. and Expeditionary Force Canteens, which offer everything that the soldier's heart desires at rates even lower than those which obtain in Great Britain. Despite these attractive rates, local commerce is not seriously affected—except when unreasonable prices are demanded, and that seldom occurs, as the French and Belgians are too sensible as men of business to resort to tactics so obviously impolitic.

When a small town is near enough to the lines to be within reach of the troops, business booms amazingly. Every kind of shop that caters for massed needs attracts a wonderful custom; while even those who serve only the local feminine requirements profit from the general prosperity.

After all, there are few things more refreshing after a round of duty in the trenches than a shopping expedition to a real town behind the lines. It brings one into touch once more with civilisation; and shops, furniture, and women are wonderful things when one has not set eyes upon them for months. The very visit to the town is an expedition of enjoyment, and the bill is not much to cavil at.

To-day, when most luxuries and some necessities are under the ban of restrictions at home, the freedom of opportunity to purchase in the war-zone is the more striking. Such an atmosphere is vastly healthier for the morale of the troops than one of restraint, restriction and minor deprivations, and it does much to relieve the strain imposed by years of modern warfare. Tommy's shopping may have its limitations, but it is none the less one of the few simple pleasures that remain to him, and he is unfeignedly glad whenever the opportunities are available.

Japanese Export Licences for Rice.

About 60 merchants in Kobe recently applied to the authorities for licences to export rice, wheat, and flour. Under date of the 12th instant the Department of Agriculture and Commerce has granted licences to four of them for the export of rice to Valparaiso, Chile.

TO-DAY'S MISCELLANY.

Easy come, easy go, money.

be the way with the money earned by most boxers. Tommy Barnes, for example, retired not long ago with a fortune of £50,000. He has now lost practically the whole of it in unfortunate speculations and a short while ago he announced his intention of returning to the ring. Jim Mace, the unbeaten heavy-weight champion of the world, earned some £40,000 boxing with his bare knuckles, and in stocks and "professional engagements." Yet he died in abject poverty a few years ago. Mace's old opponent, Bob Travers, is still alive, but, to put it mildly, he is far from well to do, although he won big sums by his many fights. Jack Johnson made about \$89,000 altogether out of his great match with Jim Jeffries at Reno, Nevada, yet to-day he is a comparatively poor man. Patsy Cummings, a contemporary of Mace and Boyers, was buried in a pauper's grave, as was also Wormald, who wrested the championship from Marsden in 1886.

The Army Order on the wearing of chevrons consists of a fairly closely-printed four-page leaflet. One of its 15 paragraphs sets forth that "the chevrons will be of worsted embroidery, 1 inch in width, the arms 1½ inch long. They will be worn inverted on the right forearm; in the case of officers, the apex of the lowest chevron will be 1 inch above the upper point of the flap on the cuff; with Highland jackets, the points of the lowest chevron will be midway between the seams of the sleeves and 2 inches above the upper row of lace; and with jackets with plain cuffs, immediately above the point of the cuff. In the case of warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and men, the apex of lowest chevron will be midway between the seams and 4 inches above the bottom edge of the sleeve. The red chevron will be worn below the blue one. They will not be worn on great coats." In view of the man-power problem, it would be of interest to know how many high officials were employed in elucidating all these highly important questions, how long they took over the job, and the aggregate amount of their salaries!—*Globe*.

Whatever else the magnificent ruins discovered in an Amazonian forest may be, they are not the remains of El Dorado, for that name, so often applied by us to an Ilocan city, was not a place at all, but a man. Fabulous stories of untold riches fired in the buccannery days of the 16th century the imagination of many a Spaniard and Englishman, including Raleigh, and sent them on futile and often disastrous expeditions into South America in search of the golden city, where, it was said, the ruler was smeared in oil and rolled in gold dust, and hence called El Dorado, the gilded man.

The British Labour party's reference to so-called Imperialism aims in Italy will be read with interest in the land of our Ally. There has never been unanimity as to the claims in respect of Italian Irredenta; there have been, on the contrary, very serious differences. Long before the war there were two distinct ideas. One sought the redemption of areas indisputably Italian and necessary for the safeguarding of frontiers. The extreme part hoped to bring under the Italian flag all those parts of Europe which the Italian tongue and sentiment prevail. This party would, theoretically, gladly have taken over not only the places as to which there is general agreement, but Nice, Malta, Corsica, and the Swiss canton of Ticino. But there was never anything in these dreams. They were denounced a generation ago, as not merely immoral and impossible, but aimed indirectly at the downfall of the monarchy.

Woman Legislator.

Mrs. Ralph Smith has been elected to represent Vancouver in the Provincial Legislative Assembly of British Columbia. She is the first woman to become a member of this body.

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COMMERCIAL NEWS.

Kiao-Chau Under the Japanese. Washington, Dec. 17.—A special report issued by the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce deals with the second year of the Japanese military administration of the territory of Kiao-chau. According to the report the total trade of Tiao-tau rose from \$13,000,000 in 1916 to \$19,000,000 in 1917; but since gold fell in value more than 35 per cent in 1918 as compared with the previous year, the actual trade increase was about fourfold. During the same period native and foreign imports rose from \$7,500,000 (\$1,500,000) to \$20,000,000 (\$4,000,000); while the exports rose from \$5,500,000 (\$1,100,000) to \$19,000,000 (\$3,800,000). Between July 1 and September 7 a Japanese building company created an entire new section of the city. A great deal of street work has also been done, wharves have been built, and shipping and railway facilities are being vigorously introduced. An order which has been issued, forbidding permanent agricultural improvements to the surrounding fields, is believed to point to their reservation as factory sites. If expectations are realized Tiao-tau has a future before it of great commercial and industrial activity.

Future of the Chemical Trade. The committee on the Chemical Trade appointed by the Minister of Reconstruction to advise as to the procedure which should be adopted for dealing with that industry have concluded their deliberations and issued their report. The committee were asked to consider matters affecting the chemical trade which could be more effectively dealt with by the formation of special organizations for the purpose, and to make suggestions in regard to the constitution and functions of any such organization. The following is a summary of the committee's recommendations:—1. That, in dealing with the problems of the chemical trade, action should be taken as far as possible in the closest collaboration with representatives of the trade. 2. That the Association of British Chemical Manufacturers should be considered as representative of the chemical trade as a whole, with certain branches expected. 3. That a standing committee should be appointed. This committee, which should be fully representative

of the interests concerned, would establish a permanent link between the Ministry and the trade. 4. That a departmental organization should be set up in the Ministry of Reconstruction to deal with chemical questions. Whatever may be the functions of the Ministry of Reconstruction, it will certainly be necessary, in the Committee's opinion, to establish a section of that Department which will be in position to deal with matters which may arise in connection with the chemical trade. They suggest the appointment of a scientific man of good standing, who would command the respect and confidence of the trade, together with the necessary staff. The following would represent some of the duties of this section:—1. To ascertain, with the assistance of the standing committee, the chief problems which are likely to arise in the process of reconstruction after the war, and the best means of dealing with them. 2. To survey generally the chemical trade, both at home and abroad, and in consultation with the standing committee to afford advice for the broadening and improvement of the chemical trade of this country. 3. To collect and disseminate information on and statistics of the chemical trade. 4. To collect and collate as much information as is available on the work which has been done during the present war, which would, no doubt, be of great interest and assistance to the chemical trade as a whole. In suggesting an organization on the above lines (the committee state) we have not overlooked the possible necessity of establishing ad hoc committees to advise you on particular problems. This, however, is a matter which you will, no doubt, deal with as occasion may require. In the foregoing report we have confined our recommendations within the narrow limits defined by the terms of reference, which speak only of "chemical trade." It is, however, for that expression were substituted "the national chemical industry" a much broader purview would be involved, and specific reference would be necessary to existing organizations other than those specifically founded for "trade" purposes, among which may be mentioned the Society of Chemical Industry, the Government Laboratory, the Committee of the Privy Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, the Imperial Institute, the National Physical Laboratory, and the Chemical Society.

A Great Bank Fusion.

The fusion announced of two of the great joint stock banks of the kingdom, the National Provincial and the Union of London and Smiths, is the most important event of the kind in the history of banking in this country, says the Times. The terms show that in effect the scheme is an absorption of the Union of London by the National Provincial, which, of course, is the larger of the two. Shareholders of the Union of London will receive nine £80 shares, £12 paid, of the National Provincial for every 10 £100 shares, £15 10s. paid, held by them. The fusion, which is subject to the confirmation of the shareholders, will take effect as from January 1 under the title of the National Provincial and Union Bank of England. The business of both banks will be continued as at present. The directors of the Union of London will join the board of the National Provincial and Union Bank, and the existing managements and staffs of both banks will be retained. The effect of the absorption will be to restore the National Provincial very nearly to its old position, which it occupied for years before the policy of big amalgamations became fashionable, of the largest bank in the kingdom. Its deposits will amount to about £170,000,000, which compares with £180,417,249 in the case of the London City and Midland Bank at June 30 and £141,053,601 in the case of Lloyd's. The deposits of these two banks have actually increased since then, but on the basis of June figures, which showed the National Provincial and Union of London to have deposits amounting to £148,894,972, the combined institution would rank second in the list of big banks so far as deposits are concerned. The paid-up capital will be increased from £3,000,000 to £5,752,000 and the reserve fund from £1,800,000 to £2,950,000. The terms of the exchange of shares are very attractive to the Union shareholders. The present market value of 10 Union shares is £237 10s., and that of nine National Provincial shares £233 10s., so that the Union shareholder will, by the exchange, increase the market value of his existing holding by £4 19s. a share, while his dividend will be increased by approximately 32.31 per cent on the basis of recent distributions. In addition, the needed liability will be reduced by nearly 50 per cent.

DR. HENSLEY HENSON CONFIRMED.

Objections Overruled by
Vicar-General.

The objections to the confirmation of the election of Dr. Hensley Henson, Bishop-designate of Hereford, were overruled recently in the vestry of Bow Church by Lord Parmoor, the Vicar-General. They were raised on behalf of Mr. John Riley, of Pateley Court Hereford, and the Rev. Ernest Hermitage Day, on the ground that "Dr. Hensley Henson treats the Virgin Birth of Our Lord and Our Lord's Resurrection as open questions, notwithstanding that these doctrines of the Church of England are imposed by the Creed." Attached to the protests were extracts from Dr. Henson's writings. The publication "Sincerity and Subscription" was quoted, with others, to show that the Bishop-elect has declared that "there is nothing to suggest anything abnormal in Christ's birth or resurrection." Again, in "The Value of the Bible" he has declared that "there is much in the primitive accounts of the Resurrection which is demonstrably unhistorical." The Vicar-General, the Registrar, the Proctor for the Dean and Chapter of Hereford, and others gathered in the vestry, where alone objections may be heard. The Bishop-elect was there in his black cassock with the scarlet hood of a Doctor of Divinity. The Vicar-General said he had carefully considered the objections, and, after the decision in the Gore case, he was unable to entertain them. His duties, he explained, were of a ministerial kind. It had been held that the Vicar-General was not in the nature of a judge holding a court, and was not entitled to consider objections of this character. The decision of the King's Court was in confirmation of that which he gave at the time of the confirmation of Bishop Gore. Any steps now taken ministerially had no effect whatever on any steps taken outside or in any other way. Dr. Henson was then formally presented as the Bishop-elect, and after taking the oath of allegiance and making the declaration against simony he gave the blessing, and the ceremony ended without further incident. Dr. Gore, Bishop of Oxford, in a further letter to the Archbishop

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1/4 Shanghai	Nom.
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1/4 Japan	142
1/4 India	Nom.
Demand, India	Nom.
1/4 San Francisco	73 3/4
co & New York	75
1/4 Java	163 1/4
1/4 Marks	Nom.
1/4 T. Marks	422
1/4 T. France	422 1/2
BUYING.	
4 m/s. L/C	3/24
4 m/s. D/P	3/24
6 m/s. L/C	3/24
30 d/s. Sydney & Melbourne	3/24
30 d/s. San Francisco & New York	75
4 m/s. Marks	Nom.
4 m/s. France	437
6 m/s. France	442
Demand, Germany	Nom.
Demand, New York	Nom.
1/4 Bombay	Nom.
Demand, Bombay	Nom.
1/4 Calcutta	Nom.
Demand, Calcutta	Nom.
Demand, Manila	147 1/4
Demand, Singapore	133 3/4
On Haiphong	34 1/2 prem.
On Saigon	14 1/2 prem.
On Bangkok	49 1/2
Sovereign	640 Nom.
Gold Leaf, per oz.	43 40
Bar Silver, per oz.	45 58

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The Third Time.
During a public thanksgiving service at Witley Parish Church, Surrey, for the capture of Jerusalem, the vicar (the Rev. E. J. Newell) announced that that was the third occasion on which, within those walls, the people of the parish had rejoiced over the capture of the Holy City. The previous occasions were during the Crusades in 1099 and 1229.

of Canterbury, has now withdrawn his protest against the consecration of Dr. Henson. "I consider myself now qualified to declare," he writes, "that Dr. Henson believes what I thought he disbelieved, and affirms what I thought he did not affirm. I beg respectfully to withdraw my protest against his consecration."

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1.00 A.M. to 1.30 A.M. Every 15 MIN.

1.30 A.M. to 2.00 A.M. Every 15 MIN.

2.00 A.M. to 2.30 A.M. Every 15 MIN.

2.30 A.M. to 3.00 A.M. Every 15 MIN.

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